

In The Specification:

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6 with the following paragraph:

--The manner in which the invention operates will now be explained in greater detail. Parameter values can be transferred in a simple and known manner from the control unit, e.g. WS1, to the field devices F1, F2, F3, F4. First, the communication connection to the physical device is established. For this, FDT provides the communication channels CommChannels. Following the establishing of the communication connection, the software code FBC is transferred from the control unit, e.g. WS1, to the field device F1 in an appropriate manner, such as in the manner used for conventional parameter values. The establishing of the connection and the communication with the physical device is already part of the FDT specifications. For executing the software code in the field device F1, a function-block shell FBS with associated interfaces S1¹, S2¹ is provided. The function-block shell represents an application program interface between fieldbus stack and function-block applications. For preventing the transfer of software code foreign to the manufacturer into the field device, provision is made in the function-block shell for checking the authenticity of the DTMs. Only in the case of DTMs from DTMs certified by the manufacturer is the transfer of software into field devices of the manufacturer permitted. In this way, it is prevented that defective or virus-contaminated software code can get into the field device.--